**Development of Telecom Service in North-East Region and Sikkim**

1262. SHRI PRAFUL GORADIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give priority for development of telecom services in North-East and Sikkim.

(b) whether Government have any special plan of the region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A Perspective Plan for Telecommunication Services in North-East Region and Sikkim (1997-2007) has been drawn up. It consists of addition of new telephone connections of 15.62 lakh lines for North-East and Assam and 0.727 lakh lines for Sikkim during the period 1997-2007. Achievement during last two year, development plans for next three years and likely status as on 31-3-2002 are given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 188, Annexure No. 35]

**Installation of Telephone Connections in Various Areas of Ghaziabad**

1263. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of residence of Sector 17, Vasundhara, Vishal Bhavan, Shyam Park, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad (U.P.) who have registered their name for the allotment of telephone connection during the year 1997 have not been provided with telephone connections;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not installing the telephone connections while C.B. numbers have already been issued;

(d) if so, by when the said telephones would be installed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.